

Weekly Status & Information Report: August 27 - 31, 2012

1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of September 3, 2012:

- The City Council returns from recess on Tuesday, September 4. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. All meetings are held in the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, and are open to the public unless noted otherwise. (City Clerk)

2. Office Closings: The City of Takoma Park offices and Community Center will be closed Saturday through Monday, September 1 – 3, in honor of Labor Day. The Library will be open regular hours on Saturday. The Police Department is always open. (Deputy City Manager)

3. Ritchie Avenue and Sligo Park Hills Access Traffic Restrictions To Take Effect September 5: The implementation of traffic restrictions to Park Valley Road and Hilltop Road during morning and evening rush hours is scheduled to begin Wednesday, September 5. The traffic restrictions in the Sligo Park Hills neighborhood was approved by Montgomery County after a lengthy public process. The restrictions will prohibit traffic from going northbound on Park Valley Road and Hilltop Road from Sligo Creek Parkway between 6:30 AM and 9 AM, and from going southbound on those same streets between 4 PM and 7 PM. The restrictions will be effective Monday through Friday. The County will be installing signage near the intersections of Sligo Creek Parkway and Park Valley Road, Hilltop Road and Geneva Avenue, and Hilltop Road and Mississippi Avenue.

The City will be implementing traffic restrictions for Ritchie Avenue as a result of the Sligo Park Hills traffic restrictions. The restrictions will prohibit right turns onto Ritchie Avenue from vehicles traveling on Maple Avenue between 6:30 AM and 9:30 AM, it will also prohibit left turns from southbound traffic on Ritchie Avenue onto Maple Avenue between 4 PM and 7 PM. Additional signage will be installed on Geneva Avenue prohibiting right turns from Geneva onto Hilltop between 4 PM and 7 PM. The restrictions will be in effect Monday through Friday. The City will also install notification signs on Ritchie Avenue and Mississippi Avenue at Piney Branch Road to inform drivers that there is no through access to Sligo Creek Parkway from those locations between 4 PM and 7 PM. (Deputy City Manager)

4. Bedtime Stories: Our Bedtime Stories program, usually held on the first Monday evening of the month, will be held instead on Monday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. because of the upcoming Labor Day holiday. (Library)

5. Comics Jam: Come join us on Tuesday, September 4 at 4:00 p.m. for our monthly Comics Jam program, hosted by Dave Burbank, the library's graphic novel guru and artiste extraordinary. We begin the program by reading comics together on the big screen, and we conclude with Dave taking "drawing requests" from the audience. No registration necessary, just come and enjoy reading some comics with Dave! (Library)

6. Summer Quest Party: Summer Quest participants: mark your calendars for Monday, September 17 at 7:00 p.m., when we'll end our Summer Quest program with a party. We'll have cupcakes and lemonade, and everyone will leave with free books. Registration encouraged so that we can have enough food and books for everyone. To register, please go to: [www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html](http://www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html) or call us at 301-891-7259. (Library)

7. New Beginners Tai Chi Class for Seniors: The Takoma Park Recreation Department will be adding a Tai Chi class for seniors. The new class is for beginning students and will meet on Mondays, 12:15 p.m.– 1:15 p.m., September 10 through December 17, 2012. The class will emphasize relaxation, posture, and breathing through the slow, integrated exercise of the traditional Yang-style short form. The class will meet in the Community Center Dance Studio. The class is free; however, registration is required. For more information, please contact Paula Lisowski, Seniors Program Manager, at 301-891-7280 or [PaulaL@takomagov.org](mailto:PaulaL@takomagov.org). (Recreation)

8. Farewell Reception for the City Manager: On Tuesday, September 4, 6:45 - 7:25 p.m., the public is invited to stop by the Community Center Atrium for a reception and opportunity to say farewell and best wishes to Barbara Matthews who will be leaving Takoma Park for Rockville. Her last day with the City is Friday, September 7. Following the reception, the City Council is scheduled to adopt a resolution recognizing Ms. Matthews for her service to the City. (City Clerk)

9. Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, Boards - Something for Everyone: The September issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter has a description of the 16 options available for those interested in volunteering to serve on City committees. There are many positions to fill this fall. Unless noted otherwise, apply by completing an application form and submit it along with a resume or statement of qualifications. The application form is available online at: [takomaparkmd.gov/committees/comapp.pdf](http://takomaparkmd.gov/committees/comapp.pdf) or by contacting the City Clerk (301-891-7267 or [JessieC@takomagov.org](mailto:JessieC@takomagov.org)). (City Clerk)

10. Strategic Demolition and Smart Growth Impact Fund: Staff attended the mandatory training for the State of Maryland's Strategic Demolition and Smart Growth Impact Fund, a new program designed to catalyze activities that accelerate economic development, job production and smart growth in existing Maryland communities. (Housing and Community Development)

11. Planning Division Display Area: A new display area for projects undertaken by the Planning Division has been established in the third floor lobby near the Finance Department. We encourage you to stop by the next time you are at the Community Center to check out our latest project. Currently on view are plans for the Ethan Allen Streetscape Project. (Housing and Community Development)

12. Morning & Afternoon Addition Program - Great Opening Week: This past week the Recreation Department welcomed over 60 participants to the Morning & Afternoon Addition Program. Parents got the opportunity to meet staff and club instructors during the orientation and staff led activities helped participants break the ice. Parents, don't forget to sign your child(ren) up for one of their favorite clubs as space is limited. For additional information please contact Dana Jackson or Lew McAllister at (301) 891-7290. (Recreation)

13. Game Room - Ready for After School Kids: The Takoma Park Community Center is located at 7500 Maple Avenue and is within walking distance from several schools in Takoma Park. The Game Room is open daily for youth ages 6 – 18 years. Games include: table tennis, pop-a-shot basketball, air-hockey, foosball, and two pool tables. For more information please contact (301) 891-7290. (Recreation)

14. Kidz City is back!! Kidz City began on Monday, August 27. This program meets Monday–Thursday from 4:00 p.m.– 6:00 p.m. Kidz City encourages growth through well rounded activities such as homework help, arts & crafts, recreation and special events. For more information contact John Webster at 301-891-7289. (Recreation)

**15. Community Outreach Officer (Pfc. Carla Magnaye):**

- On August 27 and 28, Officer Magnaye assisted Don Bosco High School with enforcing new traffic pattern at morning drop offs.
- On August 28, she created a crime prevention write-up geared towards the elderly to include in a senior citizen manual per the request of the Takoma Park senior citizen advocacy group. (Police)

**16. Crime Report:** The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (August 24-30, 2012) may be viewed online at [http://cathylevy.blogspot.com/2012/08/takoma-park-police-department-weekly\\_30.html](http://cathylevy.blogspot.com/2012/08/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_30.html). (Police)

**17. Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 78 traffic stops, which resulted in citations and three vehicle impounds.

*During August 24-30, 2012, the following details were completed:*

**August 24, 2012**

- Anne Street & Hammond Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.

**August 27, 2012**

- Conducted details at various locations throughout the City (tag reader) and issued 13 State citations.

**August 28, 2012**

- Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.
- Poplar Avenue & Spring Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.

**August 29, 2012**

- 1100 University Blvd. (Safety Equipment Repair Order) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and four warnings.

**August 30, 2012**

- Larch Avenue & New Hampshire Avenue (one-way enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one State citation. (Police)

**18. Traffic Officer Stats (Pfc. Walter Smith):**

*Week ending 8/30/12*

State citations: 24

Calls for service: 12

Reports: 3

Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO): 6

Field Investigative Reports (FIRs): 3

Warnings issued: 7

Court time: 2 hours

(Police)